CGE
1 $2.95
OCT $4.00 CAN
MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE™
RISE OF THE SNAKE MEN
STAPLES · TONG · MEYERS · WASHINGTON · DUKESHIRE

MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE™ RISE OF THE SNAKE MEN

Val Staples
workaholic
Matt Tyree
art director
Jonboy Meyers
marketing director
Leanne Shaw
editor

MVCREATIONS™
www.mvcreations.com

From within the bowels of Snake Mountain, a terrible force rises once more to terrorize the face of the planet! Behold the evil Snake Men, a powerful race of beings that held all of the world in their grip for countless centuries until their empire was finally toppled by the heroic forces of Eternia! Now they are back, and bent on conquest yet again! Will the Masters be able to stop them in time?

Cover A
Jonboy Meyers
Tony Washington

HE-MAN.ORG exclusive

Cover B
Nathan Baertsch

Val Staples
story

Jonboy Meyers *(Pages 1-6)*
Andie Tong *(Pages 7-22)*
art

Tony Washington
colors

Ed Dukeshire
letters

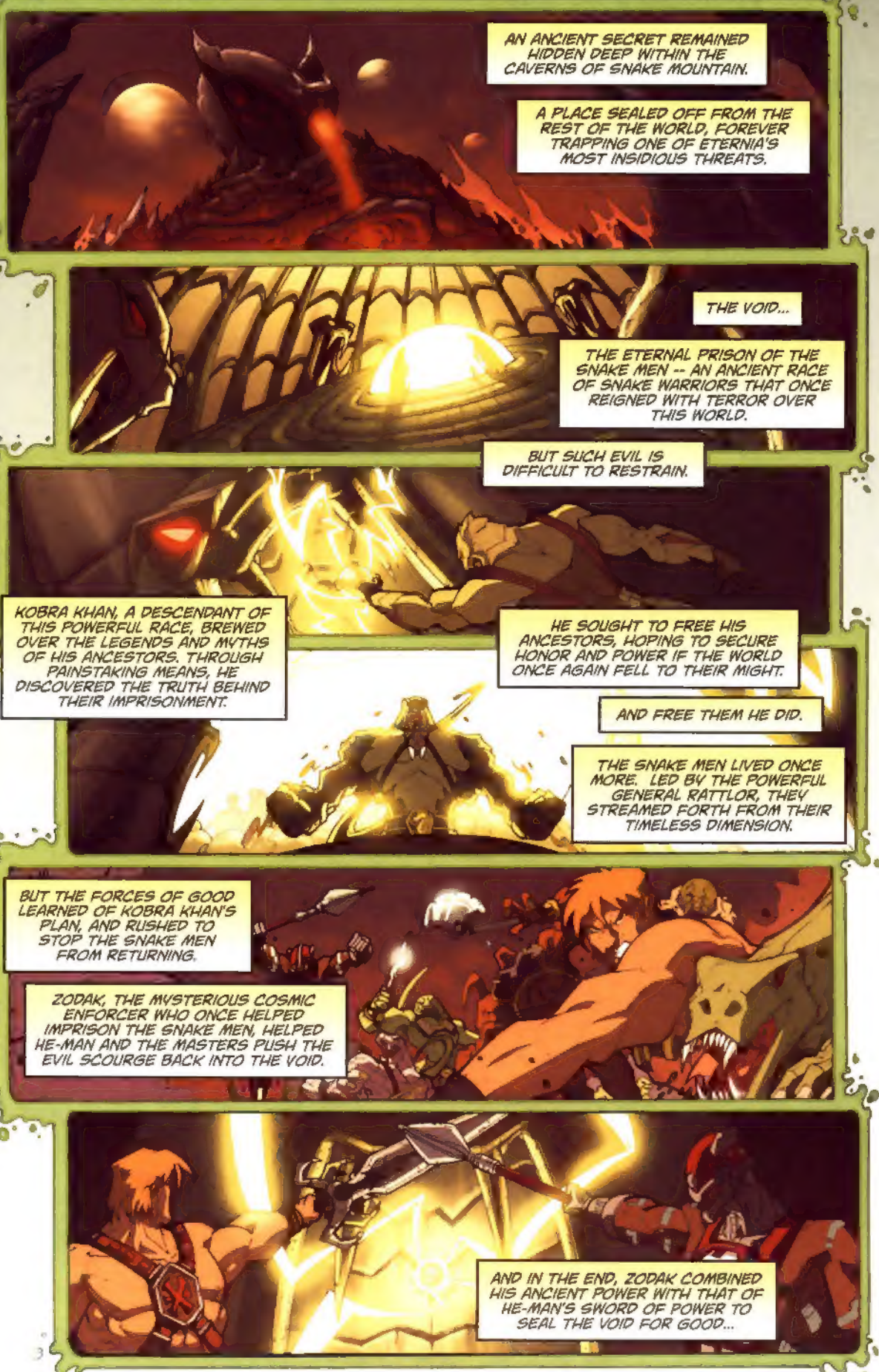
Monica Lopez
Vicki Jaeger
Ian Richter
Geoff Walker
edits

CGE

CrossGen Publishing, LLC
President Chief Executive Officer & Publisher · **Mark Alessi**
Senior Vice President Chief Creative Officer · **Gina M. Villa**
Director Ancillary Publishing · **Ian M. Feller**
Senior Vice President Chief Financial Officer · **Michael A. Beattie**
Controler · **Brian Soltis**
Senior Vice President General Counsel · **Jennifer Hernandez**
Senior Vice President Product Development · **Tony Panaccio**
Director of Marketing & Communications · **Bill Rosemann**
Vice President Sales · **Chris Carr**
Director of Sales Direct & Foreign Markets · **James Breitbeil**
Vice President Special Projects · **Brandon Peterson**
Vice President Production · **Pam Davies**
Production Supervisor Books · **Janet Bechtle**
Production Designers · **Erin Flanagan & Randy Martin**
Production Assistants · **Ron Domingue & Marisol Quintana**

MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE™ RISE OF THE SNAKE MEN Issue 1, October 2003. FIRST PRINTING

MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE™ and associated trademarks and trade dress are owned by, and used under license from, Mattel, Inc. © 2003 Mattel, Inc. All Rights Reserved. http://www.mattel.com
Published by CrossGen Publishing, LLC. Office of publication: 4023 Tampa Road, Suite 2400, Oldsmar, Florida 34677. The CGE logo ™ is Trademark 2002-2003 CrossGen Intellectual Property, LLC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. Produced by MVCreations, LLC. 1316 Jefferson Street. Lynchburg, VA 24504. The MVCreations logo ™ is Trademark 1998-2003 MVCreations, LLC. The stories, incidents and characters in this publication are fictional. Any similarities to persons living or dead or to names, characters or institutions are unintentional, and any such similarity is purely coincidental. With the exception of artwork used for review purposes, none of the contents of this publication may be reprinted or reproduced in any form without the prior express written consent of Mattel, Inc. and MVCreations, LLC. PRINTED IN USA.


AN ANCIENT SECRET REMAINED HIDDEN DEEP WITHIN THE CAVERNS OF SNAKE MOUNTAIN.
A PLACE SEALED OFF FROM THE REST OF THE WORLD, FOREVER TRAPPING ONE OF ETERNIA'S MOST INSIDIOUS THREATS.
THE VOID...
THE ETERNAL PRISON OF THE SNAKE MEN -- AN ANCIENT RACE OF SNAKE WARRIORS THAT ONCE REIGNED WITH TERROR OVER THIS WORLD.
BUT SUCH EVIL IS DIFFICULT TO RESTRAIN.
KOBRA KHAN, A DESCENDANT OF THIS POWERFUL RACE, BREWED OVER THE LEGENDS AND MYTHS OF HIS ANCESTORS. THROUGH PAINSTAKING MEANS, HE DISCOVERED THE TRUTH BEHIND THEIR IMPRISONMENT.
HE SOUGHT TO FREE HIS ANCESTORS, HOPING TO SECURE HONOR AND POWER IF THE WORLD ONCE AGAIN FELL TO THEIR MIGHT.
AND FREE THEM HE DID.
THE SNAKE MEN LIVED ONCE MORE. LED BY THE POWERFUL GENERAL RATTLOR, THEY STREAMED FORTH FROM THEIR TIMELESS DIMENSION.
BUT THE FORCES OF GOOD LEARNED OF KOBRA KHAN'S PLAN, AND RUSHED TO STOP THE SNAKE MEN FROM RETURNING.
ZODAK, THE MYSTERIOUS COSMIC ENFORCER WHO ONCE HELPED IMPRISON THE SNAKE MEN, HELPED HE-MAN AND THE MASTERS PUSH THE EVIL SCOURGE BACK INTO THE VOID.
AND IN THE END, ZODAK COMBINED HIS ANCIENT POWER WITH THAT OF HE-MAN'S SWORD OF POWER TO SEAL THE VOID FOR GOOD...

...OR SO IT SEEMED.
THE TERROR HAS RISEN!
THEIR ARMIES ARE UNSTOPPABLE!
THEY WILL RAVAGE THE LAND IN A WAVE OF DESTRUCTION!
RUMMBLLE
GRAVSKULL WILL FALL UNDER THEIR MIGHT!

AND ALL OF ETERNIA WILL SUFFER!!!
GAH!!!
Uhhhh.
IT CANNOT BE. THE VOID WAS SEALED FOR GOOD.
THERE IS ONLY ONE SLIM POSSIBILITY.
BUT HE WOULD NEVER ALLOW FOR THAT TO HAPPEN. NOT AFTER THE WAY HE SUFFERED.
BUT I CAN TAKE NO CHANCES. NOT WHEN IT INVOLVES A THREAT SUCH AS THIS.
I MUST CONTACT ADAM...

LATER THAT DAY.
OUR APOLOGIES FOR SUCH A HASTY GATHERING, KING RANDOR.
WHEN OUR MAN-AT-ARMS CALLS FOR A SPEEDY COUNCIL, I IMAGINE THE NEWS IS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE.
WHAT HAS CREATED SUCH URGENCY, DUNCAN?
THE SORCERESS HAS RELAYED URGENT NEWS.
THE THREAT OF THE SNAKE MEN REMAINS. AND IN THE NEAR FUTURE, THEY MAY THREATEN THE FACE OF ETERNIA ONCE MORE.

BUT HOW?
I WAS TOLD HE-MAN AND ZODAK SEALED THE VOID FOREVER. THEIR ONE CHANCE AT ESCAPE WAS RUINED. IF ANY SNAKE MEN STILL EXIST, THEY MOST CERTAINLY REMAIN TRAPPED BEYOND OUR WORLD.
THE NEWS I BRING IS AS CERTAIN AS THE WORD OF THE ELDERS.
IT COULD HAPPEN AT ANY TIME. AND REGARDLESS OF HOW AND WHY, I WANT TO BE THERE TO STOP IT!
BUT WE DON'T WANT TO DO THIS ALONE. WE ALSO NEED TO DO OUR BEST TO JOIN FORCES WITH SKELETOR. HE WILL WANT THE SNAKE MEN AROUND EVEN LESS THAN WE, AND WE NEED TO USE THAT TO OUR ADVANTAGE.

MAN-AT-ARMS SPEAKS NOTHING SHORT OF THE TRUTH. THE LEGENDS OF THE SNAKE MEN TELL OF THE HORROR THEY WOULD UNLEASH UPON ETERNIA.

ETERNIA WOULD NO LONGER BE SAFE FOR ANYONE IF THE LEGENDS OF THE SNAKE MEN BECAME REALITY.
GATHER YOUR FORCES, MAN-AT-ARMS. TAKE WHAT YOU REQUIRE AND DO WHAT YOU MUST TO ENSURE THIS MENACE NEVER SETS FOOT ON ETERNIA.
BUT BE WARY OF SKELETOR. I DON'T WANT TO LOSE MY BEST WARRIORS TO THE HANDS OF OUR GREATEST ADVERSARY.

I UNDERSTAND. THANK YOU, YOUR HIGHNESS.

MEKANECK AND I ARE READY TO HELP, FATHER.
EXCELLENT. WE WILL HAVE TO ORGANIZE THE TROOPS AND HEAD TO SNAKE MOUNTAIN IN THE NEXT FEW HOURS.
YOU MIGHT NEED SOME AIR SUPPORT, MY FRIEND!
EVEN THOUGH I'M VISITING ETERNOS TO MEET WITH THE KING AND QUEEN, I'D NEVER LET MY FELLOW WARRIORS GO INTO A DANGEROUS SITUATION ALONE!
BESIDES... BIRDS HATE SNAKES!

Heh Heh. VERY WELL, STRATOS.
EVEN IF I SAID NO, I HAVE A FUNNY FEELING YOU'D SHOW UP ANYWAY.
WELL, Uh, WISH I COULD HELP! BUT I HAVE SOME ERRANDS I NEED TO RUN BEFORE THE DAY IS OVER!
NOT AGAIN!
EVERY TIME THERE'S A THREAT, YOU TAKE OFF!
CALM DOWN, TEELA.
KEEP IN MIND ADAM IS THE KING'S SON. HE HAS RESPONSIBILITIES HERE AT THE PALACE. HE WOULD BE BETTER SUITED HERE.
TEELA... YOU ASSEMBLE A SMALL AWAY TEAM TO ACCOMPANY US. STRATOS AND MEKANECK WILL JOIN YOU.
I WILL PREPARE OUR VEHICLES TO LEAVE. WE HAVE A LONG DAY AHEAD OF US. MY ONLY OTHER HOPE IS THAT WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO CONTACT HE-MAN.

A SHORT WHILE LATER.
...THIS IS AN ENEMY THAT'S JUST AS POWERFUL AS SKELETOR AND HIS FORCES, YET MORE PLENTIFUL.
WE WILL GO IN WITH THE SMALL INFILTRATION PARTY YOU SEE BEFORE YOU. AND WE DON'T PLAN TO RETURN UNTIL WE ACCOMPLISH OUR MISSION.
BUT, THERE IS A CHANCE WE MAY FAIL TO STOP THE SNAKE MEN. THAT IS WHY I NEED MOST OF YOU TO REMAIN HERE TO PROTECT THE PALACE.

YOU HAVE ALREADY BEEN BRIEFED ON YOUR ORDERS AND YOU KNOW THE RISKS WE FACE! BUT NEVER FORGET FOR WHAT YOU FIGHT!!
FOR PEACE! FOR FREEDOM!

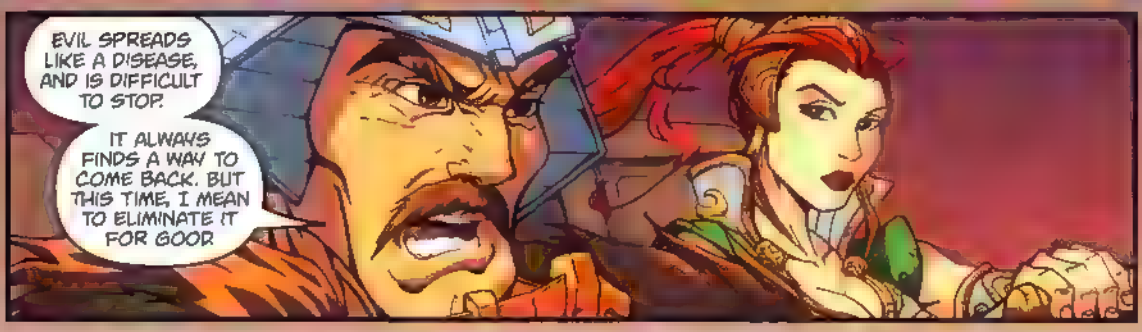
FOR ETERNIA!!!
FOR ETERNIA!!!

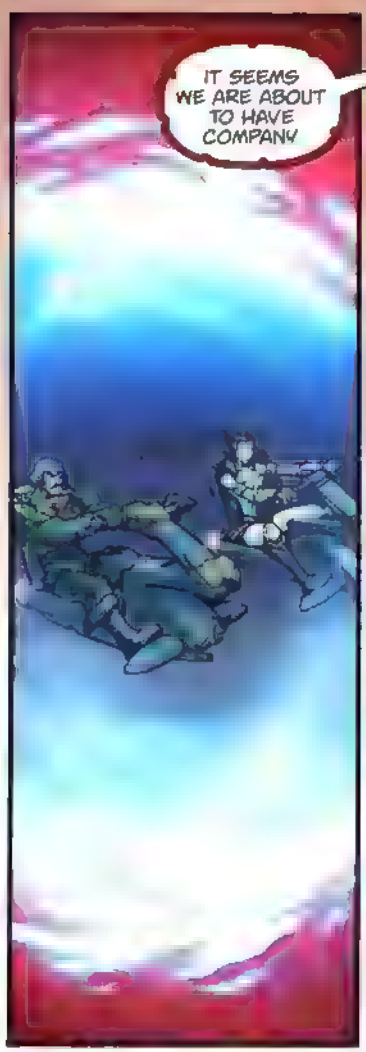
WELL, CRINGER OLD FRIEND... YOU KNOW WHAT THIS MEANS.
KRROOW!!!
Heh Heh. I KNOW, I KNOW. BUT DON'T WORRY... I HAVE JUST THE THING TO PERK YOU UP.
BY THE POWER OF GRAYSKULL!...

SKRA-KABOOM
I HAVE THE POWER!!

OKAY BUDDY, NOW IT'S YOUR T---
WHAT TH-?!?
DON'T WORRY, HE-MAN.
THE POWER OF GRAYSKULL WILL HELP YOU ADAPT TO FIGHT AGAINST ANY THREAT.
THIS ARMOR WILL SERVE YOU WELL IN YOUR UPCOMING BATTLE WITH EVIL.
WELL THEN...
I GUESS SOMETIMES A LITTLE CHANGE IS FOR THE BETTER.
AND SPEAKING OF CHANGE...
ZZCRAKK
ROOARR
WE HAVE A LOT OF GROUND TO COVER, ESPECIALLY IF WE ARE GOING TO GET A HEAD START ON THOSE JET SLEDS!
LET'S GO, BATTLE CAT!

THE SNAKE MEN? AGAIN?
HOW WOULD THEY BE ABLE TO GET FREE AGAIN, FATHER? IT JUST DOESN'T SEEM POSSIBLE.


EVIL SPREADS LIKE A DISEASE, AND IS DIFFICULT TO STOP.
IT ALWAYS FINDS A WAY TO COME BACK. BUT THIS TIME, I MEAN TO ELIMINATE IT FOR GOOD.


IT SEEMS WE ARE ABOUT TO HAVE COMPANY.

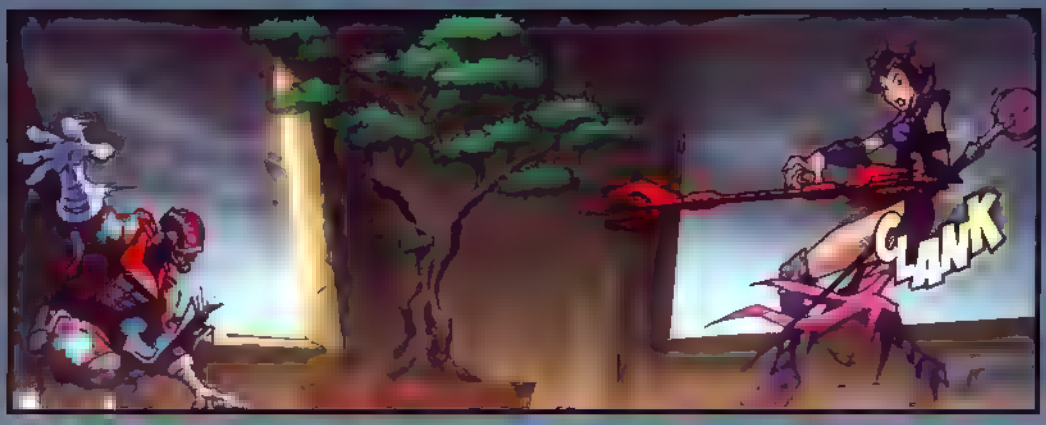
A SMALL AWAY TEAM LED BY MAN-AT-ARMS IS APPROACHING.

I WANT BOTH HIM AND CAPTAIN TEELA CAPTURED. DO WHAT YOU WILL WITH THE REST.
TRI-KLOPS... YOU AND EVIL-LYN WILL...

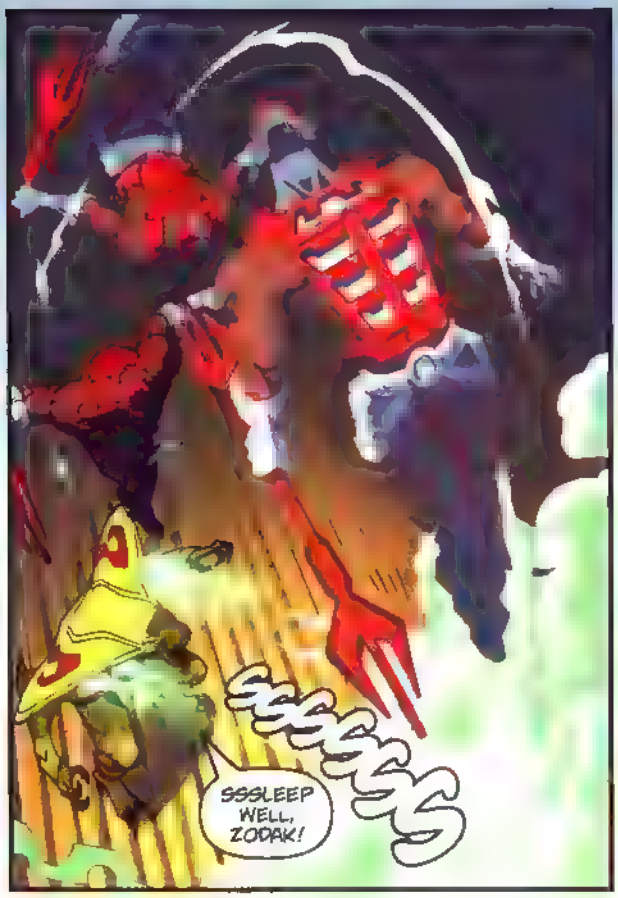
WHERE EXACTLY IS EVIL-LYN...?

ZODAK'S LAIR IS ATOP THESE MOUNTAINS. I DISCOVERED IT WHILE SEEKING OUT POWERFUL MAGIC SIGNATURES DURING MEDITATION.
HMMMMMMM
I EXPECT THE REWARD WE DISCUSSED AHEAD OF TIME.
I'M TAKING A GREAT RISK. SKELETOR'S WRATH CAN BE VERY... UNPLEASANT.
DON'T WORRY, EVIL-LYN. KING HSSS ALWAYSSS REWARDSSS HISSS ALLIESSS.
ONCE KING HSSS RETURNSSS, SKELETOR WILL NO LONGER BE A CONCERN OF YOURSSS!
THE SNOW STORM AND STEALTH ENGINES OF THIS CRAFT WILL MASK OUR APPROACH. I HAVE ALSO CREATED A MAGICAL BARRIER TO PROTECT US FROM DETECTION.
WE SHOULD HAVE NO DIFFICULTIES.
HMMMMMM

ZODAK ISSS NOT HERE, NOR IS HISSS STAFF! YOU'VE LEAD USSS TO THE WRONG PLACE!
CREEAK
DON'T BE FOOLED SO EASILY, YOU SIMPLETON
I SENSE A PRESENCE... HE IS--
GAH!
ACK!
FOOM
THWACK
FWAP
ARRRRGH!!!
THREE AGAINST ONE, ZODAK! YOU DON'T STAND A CHANCE!
MAKE IT EASY ON YOURSELF AND SURRENDER!
GRRRKKKKK!


CLANK

HSSSSSS!


SSSLEEP WELL, ZODAK!
SSSSSS

YOUR SSSPEED CAN'T SSSAVE YOU FROM THE INEVITABLE!

OOOF!!!
THUD

HAHA
VERY SSSLOPPY, ZODAK
AFTER I HEARD YOU STILL EXISTED I THOUGHT TIME MAY HAVE SHARPENED YOUR SKILLSSS!!!
BUT I SEE YOU ARE SSSTILL AS PATHETIC AS BEFORE!!!
THWUMP
HMMM... NOT MUCH OF A TALKER.
I WOULD LOVE TO HEAR HIM SCREAM JUST ONCE BEFORE WE KILL HIM!
NO.
KING HSSS WILL HAVE OTHER PLANSSS FOR HIM!
WE HAVE HISSS STAFF! THE KEY IS OURSSS!
BUT WHAT ABOUT ZODAK?

BY THE TIME HE COMESSS AROUND WE WILL HAVE ALREADY SUCCEEDED!
THEN IT WILL ONLY BE MATTER OF TIME BEFORE HE ANSWERSSS FOR HIS PASSST!!!
HMMMMMMMMM
HMMMMMMMMM

IT'S POSSIBLE ONE OF SKELETOR'S OUTPOSTS MAY HAVE SPOTTED US, EVEN THOUGH WE FLEW IN LOW TO AVOID DETECTION.
SO ONCE WE GET TO SNAKE MOUNTAIN, WE'LL HAVE TO QUICKLY FIND OUR WAY TO SKELETOR BEFORE HIS TROOPS OVERPOWER US.
MEKANECK... REPORT.
THERE'S NOT A LOT TO REPORT, DUNCAN.
THIS PLACE IS AN AMBUSH WAITING TO HAPPEN. SKELETOR'S WARRIORS COULD POP OUT FROM ANYWHERE AT ANY GIVEN--
ARRGH!
BOOOM
MEKANECK!!!
ACK!
SHRAK
MER-MAN AND WHIPLASH.
TAKE THEM OUT! I'M GOING AFTER OUR MEN.
NO PROB--
AHHHHHH!
BLAMOOOM

RRRRRR!!
I CAN'T. . REGAIN.
GOTCHA!
ZZZT
ZZT
ZZZT
ZZZT
BOOM
WHAT--
--IS HE--
AHHHHHH!!!

HAVE TO TIME THIS JUST RIGHT...
HMMMMMMM
KRAKROOM
GURNNNHHH!
TEELA!
HMMMMMMM
BOOM
TEELA! ARE YOU OKAY?
I'M FINE.
WE HAVE TO GET TO COVER BEFORE THEY CAN MAKE ANOTHER
SO... WHOSE IDEA WAS THIS EXACTLY?
WE AREN'T GOING TO LAST LIKE THIS FOR LONG.
THERE HAS TO BE SOME WAY TO LET SKELETOR KNOW WE CAME IN PEACE.

I'M AFRAID IT IS TOO LATE FOR THAT, MAN-AT-ARMS.
BECAUSE FOR ALL THOSE WHO TRESPASS ON SNAKE MOUNTAIN...
...THERE CAN BE NO PEACE!

GETTING PASSST THE GUARD WAS MUCH EASIER THAN IT SSSHOULD HAVE BEEN. I WAS HOPING TO FIND SSSOME RESISSSTANCE.
AS FATE WOULD HAVE IT, IT WOULD APPEAR SSSKELETOR'S FORCESSS ARE ON ALERT
MOSSST ARE MOVING OUT INTO THE GROUNDSSS AROUND SNAKE MOUNTAIN TO PREPARE THEIR DEFENSE FOR SSSOMETHING.
ARE YOU SSSURE ZODAK'S SSSTAFF WILL WORK? IF YOU ARE WASSSTING MY TIME..
IF THEY ONLY KNEW WHAT WASSS COMING!
HAVE NO WORRIESSS, GREAT ONE! I HAVE DEDICATED MY LIFE TO THE HISTORY OF MY ANCESSSTORS.
I HAVE SSSORTED THROUGH EVERY RELIC, READ EVERY SSSCROLL, DECIPHERED EVERY SSSCRAP OF PARCHMENT THAT MADE MENTION OF OUR KIND.
I KNOW ALL OF THE ELDERS' MISTAKESSS... AND HOW TO UNDO EVERY ONE OF THEM!
YESSS! THE VOID REMAINS UNTOUCHED!
SKELETOR MUST HAVE GIVEN UP TRYING TO ACCESS ITS SECRETSSS.
HE IS TOO CONSSSUMED BY CONQUEST OF ETERNIA TO INVESSST TIME RESEARCHING THE POWER AT HAND!
THERE IS ONLY ONE TRUE POWER AND THAT ISSS KING HSSS!

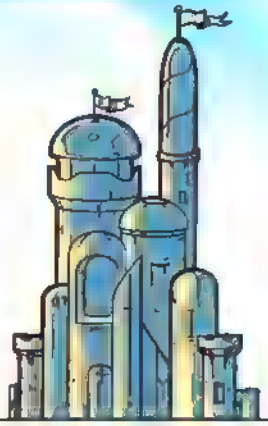
YESSS, THERE IS NONE GREATER!
ZODAK AND HE-MAN THOUGHT THEY SSSEALED THE VOID FOR GOOD.
THE ANCIENT KEY I DISSSCOVERED IS PERMANENTLY BONDED TO THE VOID'S ONLY ACCESS POINT
BUT WHAT THE MASTERSSS DON'T REALIZE IS THAT THE MAGIC ENERGY IS STILL ALIVE!
ALL IT NEEDS TO REACTIVATE IT IS THE SIGNATURE FROM THE POWER OF THE E.DERSSS. AND THAT SAME ANCIENT POWER IS CONTAINED IN ZODAK'S STAFF!
NOW ALL I NEED TO DO IS--
YOU MEAN WHAT I NEED TO DO, KOBRA KHAN!
Y-Y-YESSS, GENERAL RATTLOR!
WHAT I MEANT TO SAY IS THAT NOW YOU WILL EMPOWER THE VOID ONCE MORE, AND FREE KING HSSS!
ZZZ

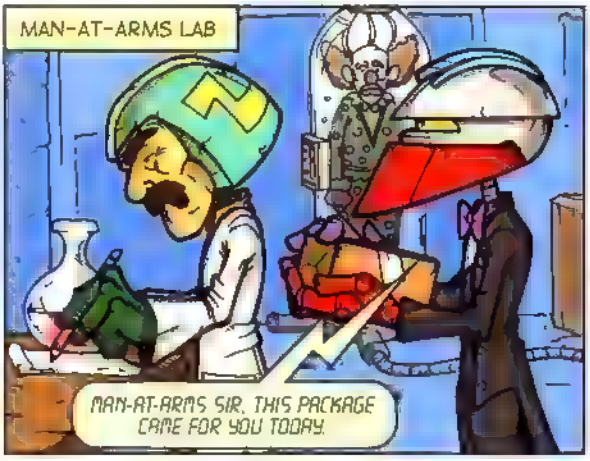
...THE SNAKE MEN ARE FREE ONCE MORE!!!

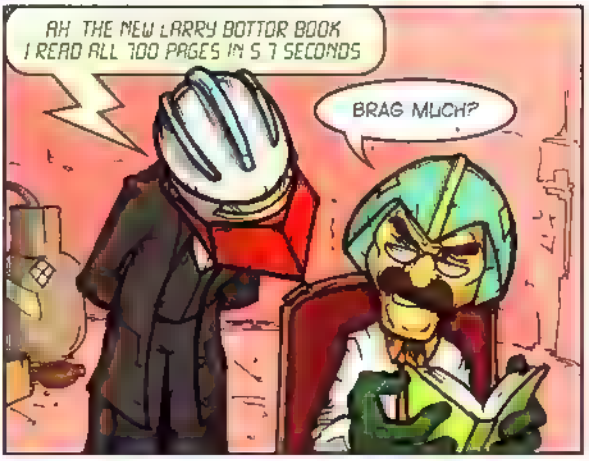
Tony Grate's

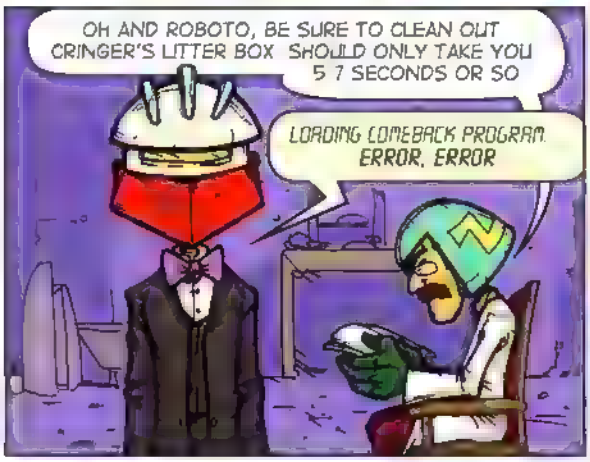
Eternian DaZe

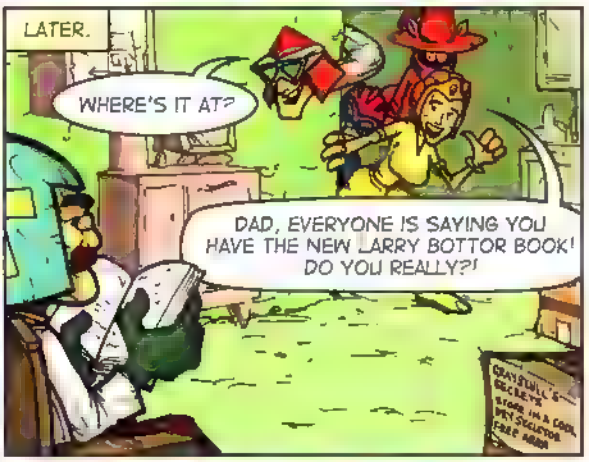
WRITTEN BY: TONY GRATE
PENCILS AND INKS: TONY GRATE
COLOR AND LETTERING: DEVIN DUCHSCHERER

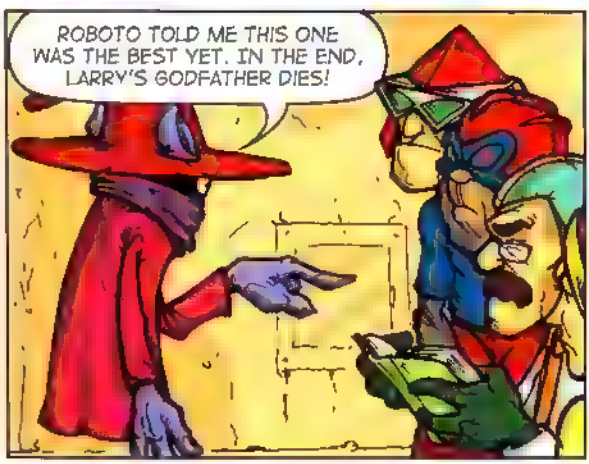







OH AND ROBOTO, BE SURE TO CLEAN OUT CRINGER'S LITTER BOX. SHOULD ONLY TAKE YOU 5 7 SECONDS OR SO
LOADING COMEBACK PROGRAM. ERROR, ERROR





MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE
RISE OF THE SNAKE MEN
CGE
2 $2.95
DEC $4.00 CAN

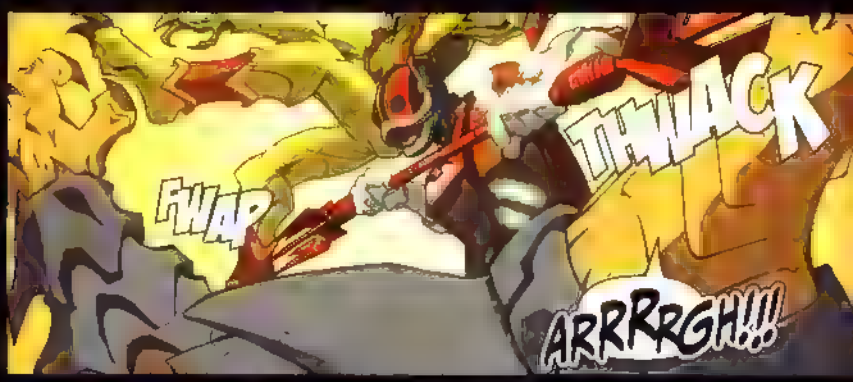
MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE™ RISE OF THE SNAKE MEN

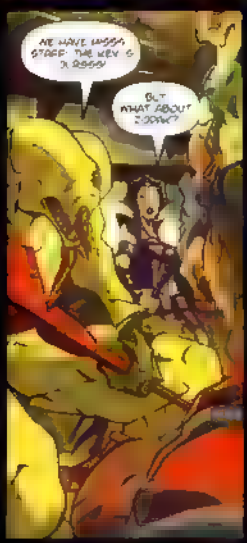
Val Staples
workaholic
Matt Tyree
art director
Leanne Shaw
editor

MVCREATIONS™
www.mvcreations.com

Last Time...

An ancient enemy known as the Snake Men was almost freed from the Void beneath Snake Mountain through the efforts of Kobra Khan, a decedent of the Snake Men. But only General Rattlor, the evil commander of their terrible armies, managed to escape before He-Man and Zodak, the Cosmic Enforcer, sealed their prison permanently. Still, a mysterious omen forewarned the Masters the Snake Men would find a way to escape. With this in mind, the Masters attempted to work with Skeletor to stop the Snake Men from returning. All the while, Evil-Lyn had been working with General Rattlor and Kobra Khan to free the Snake Men with hopes of increasing her power. After stealing Zodak's staff, they sneaked into the Void where they used the staff to free King Hsss and the Snake Men while the Masters faced off against an uncaring Skeletor!





Val Staples — story
Andie Tong — art
Tony Washington (Page 1)
Grafik Sismik (Pages 2-13)
Jeremy Roberts (Pages 14-22) — colors

Ed Dukeshire — letters

Monica Lopez
Vicki Jaeger
Ian Richter
Geoff Walker
edits

CGE

CrossGen Publishing, LLC
President Chief Executive Officer & Publisher · Mark Alessi
Senior Vice President Chief Creative Officer · Gina M. Villa
Director Ancillary Publishing · Ian M. Feller
Senior Vice President Chief Financial Officer · Bret Sears
Controller · Brian Soltis
Senior Vice President General Counsel · Jennifer Hernandez
Senior Vice President Product Development · Tony Panaccio
Director of Marketing & Communications · Bill Rosemann
Vice President Sales · Chris Oarr
Director of Sales Direct & Foreign Markets · James Breithoff
Vice President Special Projects · Brandon Peterson
Vice President Production · Pam Davies
Production Supervisor Books · Janet Bechtle
Production Designers · Erin Flanagan & Randy Martin
Production Assistants · Ron Domingue & Marisol Quintana

MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE™ RISE OF THE SNAKE MEN Issue 2, November 2003. FIRST PRINTING.

MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE™ and associated trademarks and trade dress are owned by, and used under license from, Mattel, Inc. © 2003 Mattel, Inc. All Rights Reserved. http://www.mattel.com/

Published by CrossGen Publishing, LLC. Office of publication: 4023 Tampa Road, Suite 2400, Oldsmar, Florida 34677. The CGE logo ™ is Trademark 2002-2003 CrossGen Intellectual Property, LLC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. Produced by MVCreations, LLC. 1316 Jefferson Street, Lynchburg, VA 24504. The MVCreations logo ™ is Trademark 1999-2003 MVCreations, LLC.

The stories, incidents and characters in this publication are fictional. Any similarities to persons living or dead or to names, characters or institutions are unintentional, and any such similarity is purely coincidental. With the exception of artwork used for review purposes, none of the contents of this publication may be reprinted or reproduced in any form without the prior express written consent of Mattel, Inc. and MVCreations, LLC. PRINTED IN USA.

YOU HAVE TO LISTEN TO ME, SKELETOR!
WE HAVE COME SEEKING YOUR HELP! THERE IS A DANGER THAT THREATENS US ALL!
YOU MUST TAKE ME FOR A FOOL, MAN-AT-ARMS. IT'S TOO LATE TO COVER YOUR TRACKS.
NO ONE CAN PENETRATE OUR BORDERS WITHOUT BEING SPOTTED NOT EVEN YOUR ELITE FORCES.
SOMEONE OR SOMETHING IS GOING TO REOPEN THE VOID UNDER SNAKE MOUNTAIN! BUT WE HAVE NO IDEA HOW TO STOP THEM THIS TIME! WE NEED TO WORK TOGETHER!
THAT'S NOT WHAT THIS IS ABOUT!
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS. THE VOID HAS BEEN SEALED FOR GOOD. AND BESIDES, NO ONE COULD PENETRATE SNAKE MOUNTAIN'S DEFENSES TO REACH IT.
YOU TOOK YOUR TIME SHOWING UP.
I WAS BUSY.
I SUGGEST NEXT TIME, EVIL-LYN, YOU FIND A MORE EFFICIENT WAY TO MANAGE YOUR TIME. ARE WE CLEAR?
YES, LORD SKELETOR.
AND SPEAKING OF CLEAR, IT'S TIME WE PART WAYS, MAN-AT-ARMS.
YOUR STORY IS AN AMUSING ONE, BUT I'M AFRAID I DON'T POSSESS A STRONG TOLERANCE FOR COMEDY.
GOODBYE, MASTERS.

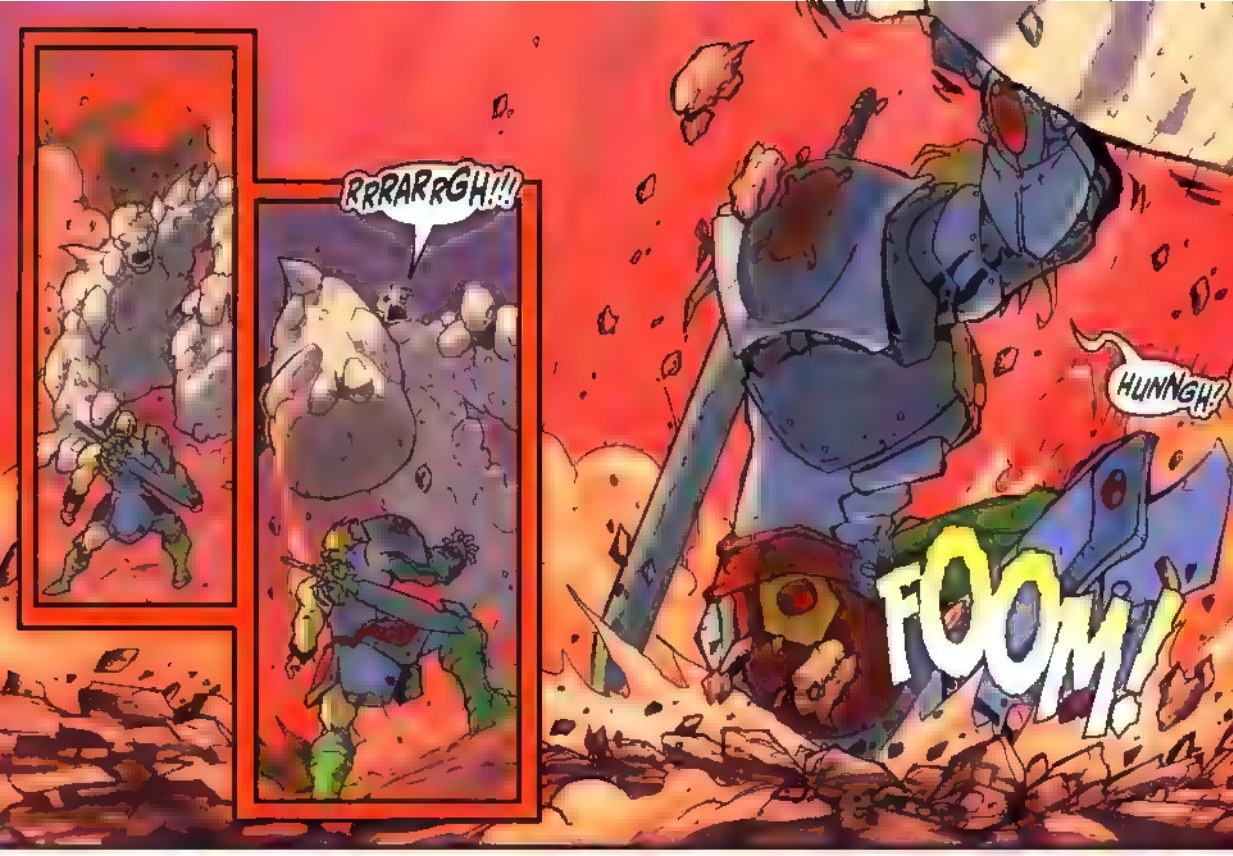
THOOM
HRRAAAH!!!
KRRRAAAAAK
HE-MAN!!
WHAT IN THE WORLD IS HE WEARING???
WE HAVE TO BREAK FORMATION OR WE'RE DEAD!
STRATOS, CAN YOU GET US ANY SORT OF AIR COVERAGE?
ZZZT
ZZZT
ZZZT
ZZZT
ZZZT
YOU MEAN TO TELL ME YOU THINK THIS LITTLE SCRAPE WILL KEEP A BIRDMAN DOWN?!?
WHHOOOSHHH
SPREAD OUT!

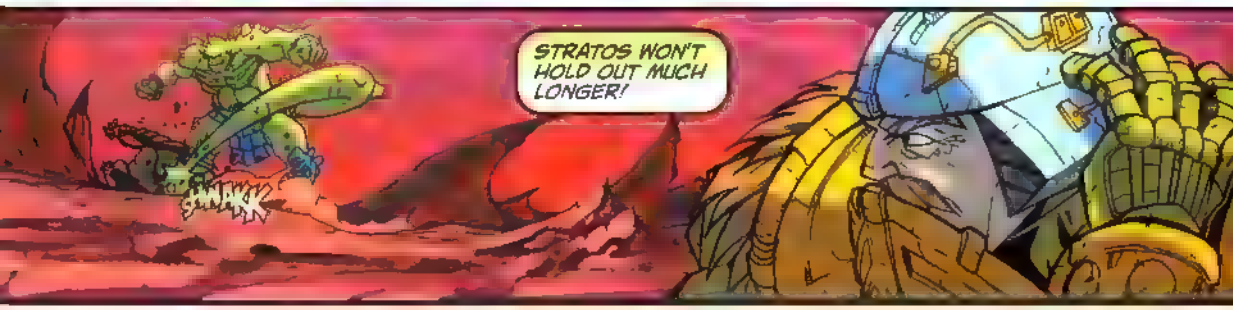
NOWHERE TO RUN, MAN-AT-ARMS!
I DIDN'T PLAN ON RUNNING ANYWHERE.
ARRRGH!
BOOM
ZZZZAAATT
IT'S TIME WE END THIS GAME!
NOT TODAY, TRI-KLOPS!
WHOOOSH
MRRRMMPHH!!!

HOW DELIGHTFUL!
THE FOOLS WALK RIGHT INTO THE SLAUGHTER!
CRRRRKKKK
HUHHH!!!
I HAVE TO FIND A WAY TO TAKE EVIL-LYN OUT OF THE PICTURE
IF ONLY--
SKAAA!!!
STAY STILL, LITTLE ONE! YOU WILL JUST MAKE IT EASIER ON YOURSELF!
HMMPH!!!
KRUNCH
WHUMP
ACK!
RAAARR
SNORT!!!
KWAMM
BRRMMMMBBLLL
BATTLE CAT!!!

DON'T WORRY, MEKANECK THIS WILL BE AS PAINFUL AS POSSIBLE!
SNAK
IF YOU INSIST, CLAWFUL!
OOOOFF!!!
GUESS WHO'S BACK, GENTLEMEN!
GAH! I CAN'T SHAKE HIM!
TZAPT
TZAT
TZAPT
MAYBE IT'S TIME YOU TWO GOT TO KNOW EACH OTHER A LITTLE BETTER!
UMPHHH!!!
STRATOS!
YOU'LL WISH YOU WERE SO LUCKY!!!
THUD
CHINKS
CHINKS
CHINKS
IS THAT THE BEST YOU HAVE?
FOOOOSH!
FOOOSH
UNNGHH!

COME ON, CAT! HANG IN THERE!
ROOAR!!!
IT'S LIKE WATCHING A CHESS GAME FROM AFAR!
BUT YOU SEE, LORD SKELETOR..
.. THE REAL FUN BEGINS WHEN THE QUEEN MAKES HER MOVE!
CRRRRRRRKKKK
NOT AGAIN.*
* SEE MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE VOLUME 2, ISSUE 2 -- EDITOR
WHAM!
UGH!!!
AAORRR
?!
HNNNNNNNRAAAAH!!!


RRRARRGH!!!
HUNNGH!
FOOM!


STRATOS WON'T HOLD OUT MUCH LONGER!
SHNAK

WHIPLASH WON'T BE SUSPECTING ME T--
KLAAKKK
SK
AARRRGH!!!

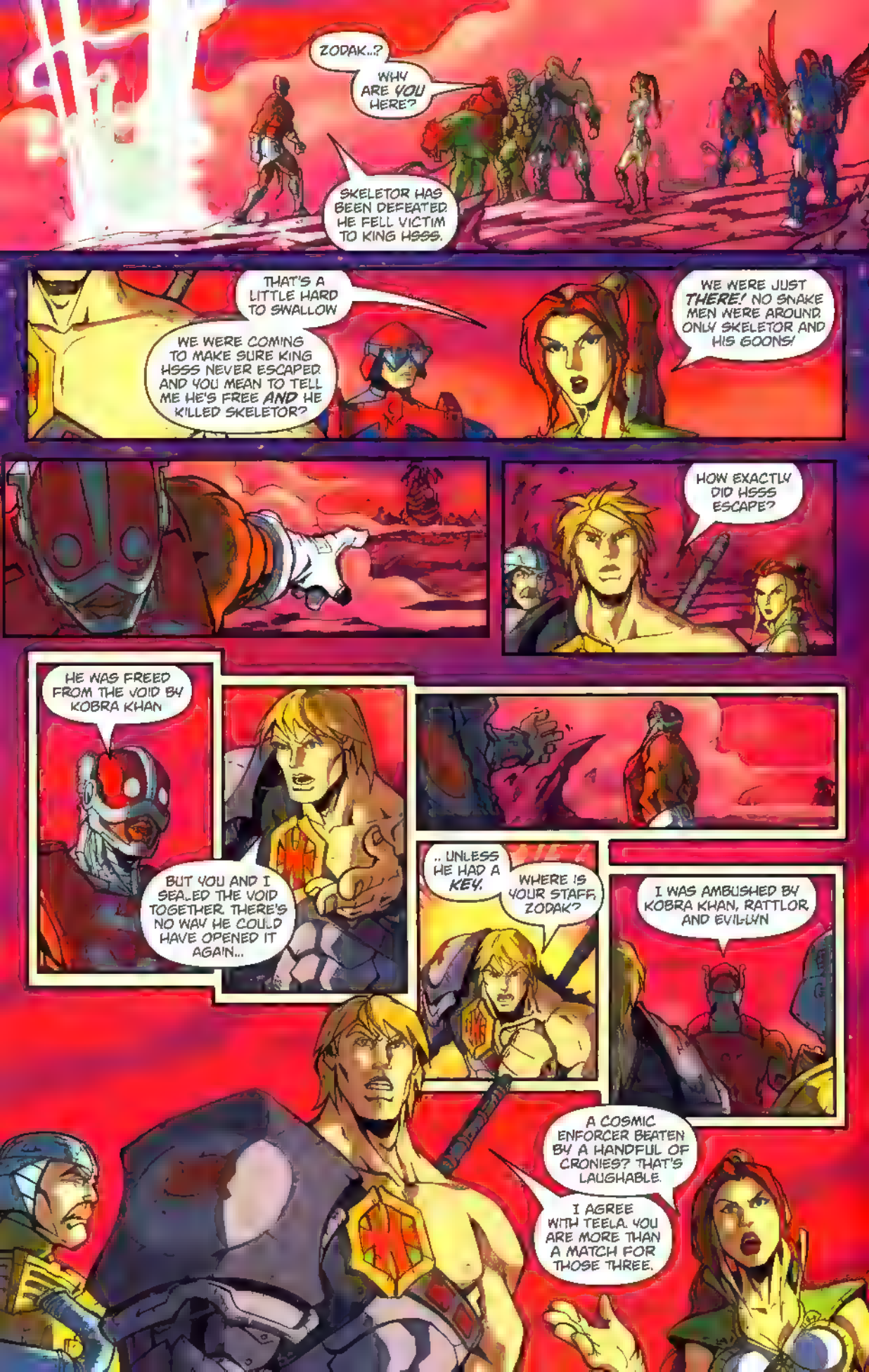
THWACK
HNNNNNN.
RAAAAHHH!!!
I'D SAY IT'S BEEN FUN, BUT...
KRAKROOM!
ACK!
GRRRKKK
YOU SEE? THE FLAWLESS EXECUTION OF PERFECT PLANNING!
MY ROCK MONSTER WEAKENED HE-MAN! THE FOOL FELL TO A SINGLE BLAST!
I CAN'T SAY THAT I SHARE YOUR OPTIMISM, EVIL-LYN.
WHEN YOU WANT SOMETHING DONE RIGHT
.. YOU HAVE TO MAKE SURE TO DO IT YOURSELF!
HRRRUNGH!
RRRKKKK

HNNNN..
MASTERS.
...RETREAT!!!
HAHAHAHA
THE COWARDS HAVE CALLED RETREAT!
THE ADVANTAGE IS OURS! THE MASTERS ARE EASY PREY!
ONCE WE DISPOSE OF THEM, WE'LL MAKE AN ASSAULT ON
YOU WON'T BE DOING ANYTHING WITHOUT MY COMMAND...
WHO DARES TO INTERRUPT ME?!?

YOUR NEW MASSTER...
KILL THIS IMBECILE!
AAAAAAAHHHHHH!!
RROOAAARR!!
RAAARR!!!
YAAAAAAAAHHH!!
AAAAAAAGHH!
WHAP
RRGHH!!!
KHRASSH
KRAK
AAIIEEEE!!!
YEEAAGK!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
ATTACK!!!

I'M SORRY, SKELETOR..
BUT I'M AFRAID I JUST CAN'T DO THAT
WHAT?!?
WHAT IS HAPPENING?!?
THE DAWNING OF A NEW ERA OF THE SNAKE MEN!
AND AN ETERNITY OF PAIN FOR ANY WHO DEFY ME!!!
SNAKE FACE!
SSSHOW THESE WARRIORS WHAT HAPPENS TO ALL WHO OPPOSSSE KING HSSS!!!
NOOOOOO
THE TIME OF A NEW EMPIRE IS UPON USSS!
THIS PLANET WILL BE OURSSS ONCE MORE!
HAHAHAHAA
KKKRRRKK

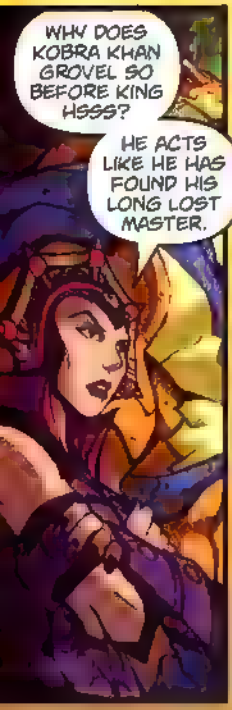
I'M SORRY TO CALL FOR A STOP, DUNCAN... THIS IS AS FAR AS I CAN GO AT THE MOMENT.
MY WINGS AND FLIGHT GEAR ARE BADLY DAMAGED. I FEAR I CAN'T TRAVEL MUCH FARTHER IN THE AIR.
IT'S NOT A PROBLEM, STRATOS. WE COULD ALL USE A BREATHER.
HOW IS EVERYONE?
I'M STILL A BIT WOOZY. STINKOR'S TOXIC GAS ALMOST DID ME IN.
I NEVER SAW ANY OF SKELETOR'S MEN FOLLOW US. I'M NOT SURE WHAT THEY HAVE PLANNED BUT THERE'S NO DOUBT THEY'LL COME AFTER US SOON.
I HAVE TO AGREE. WE SHOULDN'T STOP FOR LONG.
HOW IS HE-MAN?
HE'S STILL UNCONSCIOUS. HE TOOK TWO POWERFUL BLOWS FROM EVIL-LYN AND SKELETOR.
I THINK THAT--
-UUHH-
SKELETOR SURE CAN PACK A PUNCH.
ARE YOU OKAY? YOU HAD US WORRIED.
I'VE BEEN BETTER.
THAT ROCK MONSTER BANGED MY LEG UP A BIT BEFORE EVIL-LYN AND SKELETOR GOT AHOLD OF ME.
WHAT'S THE STATUS ON THEIR FORCES?
SKELETOR HAD THE UPPER HAND AND WE HAD TO PULL OUT... TEMPORARILY.
WE NEED TO CALL IN REINFORCEMENTS. I CAN'T CONSCIOUSLY LET THIS SITUATION GET OUT OF CONTROL. IF THE SNAKE MEN ESCAPE--
THEY HAVE ALREADY ESCAPED.


ZODAK..?
WHY ARE YOU HERE?
SKELETOR HAS BEEN DEFEATED. HE FELL VICTIM TO KING HSSS.
THAT'S A LITTLE HARD TO SWALLOW
WE WERE COMING TO MAKE SURE KING HSSS NEVER ESCAPED AND YOU MEAN TO TELL ME HE'S FREE AND HE KILLED SKELETOR?
WE WERE JUST THERE! NO SNAKE MEN WERE AROUND. ONLY SKELETOR AND HIS GOONS!
HOW EXACTLY DID HSSS ESCAPE?
HE WAS FREED FROM THE VOID BY KOBRA KHAN
BUT YOU AND I SEALED THE VOID TOGETHER. THERE'S NO WAY HE COULD HAVE OPENED IT AGAIN...
.. UNLESS HE HAD A KEY.
WHERE IS YOUR STAFF, ZODAK?
I WAS AMBUSHED BY KOBRA KHAN, RATTLOR AND EVILLYN
A COSMIC ENFORCER BEATEN BY A HANDFUL OF CRONIES? THAT'S LAUGHABLE.
I AGREE WITH TEELA. YOU ARE MORE THAN A MATCH FOR THOSE THREE.

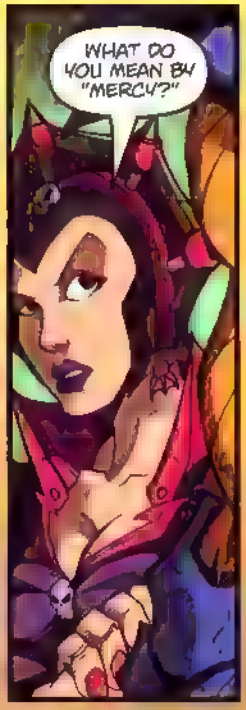
DON'T DO THIS, ZODAK!
YOU ARE ONLY GOING TO MAKE MATTERS WORSE TRYING TO HANDLE THIS ALONE.
STAND ASIDE. THIS IS YOUR FINAL WARNING
I DON'T WISH TO HARM YOU, HE-MAN
TELL THAT TO MY FRIENDS BACK THERE...THE ONES YOU ALMOST KILLED.
I ONLY INTENDED TO STUN THEM
THEY MUST NOT BE INVOLVED WITH THIS BATTLE. I HAVE AN OLD SCORE TO SETTLE.
YOU ENDANGERED ALL OF ETERNIA BECAUSE OF A GRUDGE?!?
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT YOU'VE DONE???

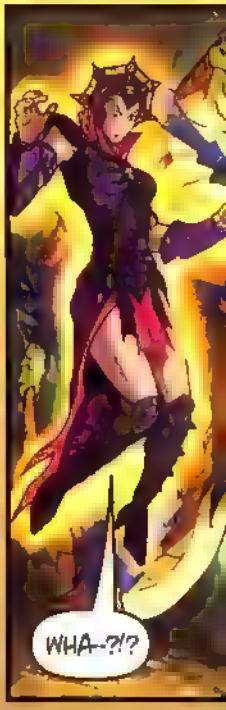
YOU WOULD NEVER UNDERSTAND, HE-MAN
FOR CENTURIES, I'VE WAITED FOR THE CHANCE TO AVENGE THE PAST.
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE FOR MEMORIES TO EAT AWAY AT YOU. HAUNTING YOU EVERY NIGHT
KING HSSS WILL PAY FOR WHAT HE DID TO ME FOR WHAT HE DID TO MY BROTHER!
THIS STOPS NOW, ZODAK.
I WON'T LET YOUR VENDETTA DESTROY OUR FUTURE.
YOU HAVE LEFT ME NO CHOICE, HE-MAN
IF YOU STAND IN MY WAY
...YOU WILL FALL!!!

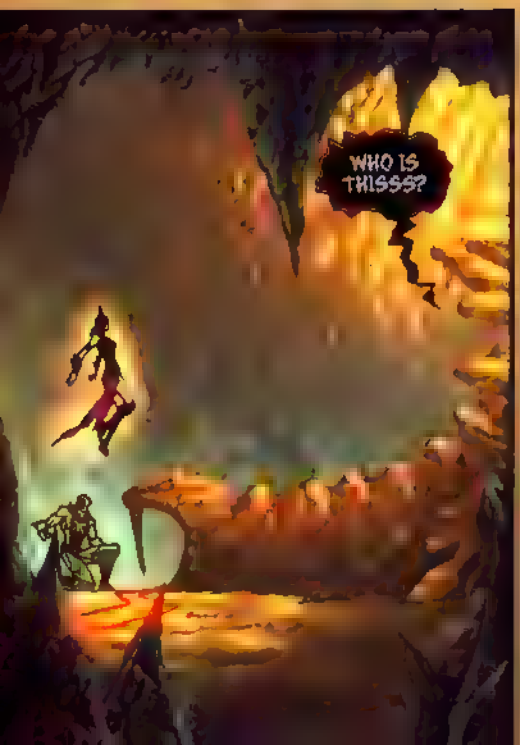
...AND WITH THISSS I PLEDGE MYSELF TO YOU, KING HSSS. TO SERVE AND OBEY YOUR EVERY COMMAND.


WHY DOES KOBRA KHAN GROVEL SO BEFORE KING HSSS?
HE ACTS LIKE HE HAS FOUND HIS LONG LOST MASTER.

KOBRA KHAN IS MERELY A DESCENDENT OF OUR ANCIENT RACE.
HE HOPES TO SSSERVE ALONG SIDE KING HSSS AS ONE OF USSS. BUT HE WILL NEVER ACHIEVE THE SAME GREATNESS AS A TRUE WARRIOR.
PERHAPS KING HSSS WILL HAVE MERCY ON HIM IN LIGHT OF HIS RECENT ASSISTANCE.


WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "MERCY?"


WHA-?!?


WHO IS THISSS?

THISSS IS EVELYN.
SHE HELPED US SECURE THE KEY TO OPEN THE VOID AND FREE YOU FROM YOUR IMPRISONMENT.

WE ARE ALL GRATEFUL FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO OUR CAUSE.
FOR THISSS, YOU SHALL BE REWARDED OUR HIGHEST HONOR.

BUT I --
YOU ARE WELCOME, YOUR HIGHNESS. I WAS MERELY DOING WHAT NEEDED T--
UNFF!!!
UNHAND ME, YOU WRETCHED BEAST!
DID YOU NOT HEAR YOUR KING?
Oh, SSSQUEEZE HEARD HIM
HE IS MERELY PREPARING YOU TO RECEIVE YOUR REWARD
YOU SEE, EVIL-LYN.
THERE ISSS NO GREATER HONOR.
...THAN TO BE CONSUMED BY KING HSSS!!!
WHAT?!?
:GULP:
YOU.... YOU CAN'T DO THIS!
I'M EXTREMELY POWERFUL! I POSSESS KNOWLEDGE OF SECRETS UNKNOWN BY ANY OTHER!
I... I CAN HELP YOU STEAL THE POWER OF THE ELDERS!!!
THE ELDERSSS...
YOU KNOW OF THE ELDERSSS?
TELL ME MORE...

HRNNNN!
THIS HAS TO STOP!
YOU ARE RIGHT
FWUMP
ARRGH!!!
THOP
THWACK
THIS IS A WASTE OF TIME! WE SHOULD BE WORKING TOGETHER!

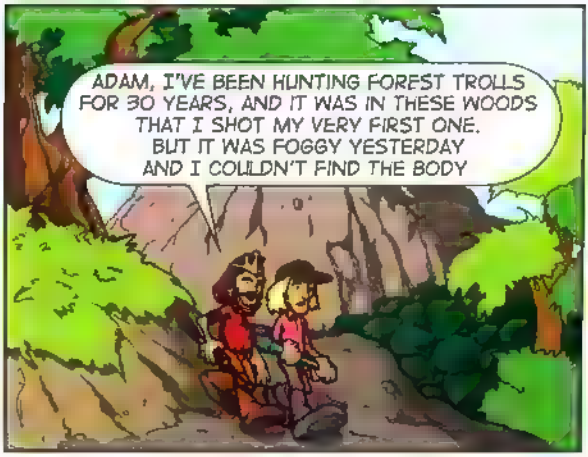
WHOOSH
OOF!!
WHUMP
THUNG
CRACK
HITK
AAAAGH!!!
THIS IS MY BATTLE.
I WILL FINISH IT!!!
WHAT HAVE I DONE?
RRMMMMMBBLL!!
ZODAK LISTEN.
I'M SORRY ABOUT YOUR BROTHER BUT YOU HAVE TO LISTEN TO ME! YOU NEED OUR HELP! IT'S NOT TOO LATE!
YOU ARE A MAN OF HONOR, HE-MAN. I WISH I COULD SAY THAT MY RECENT ACTIONS HAVE FOLLOWED SUIT
PERHAPS, LIKE BEFORE, WE COULD HAVE FOUGHT SIDE-BY-SIDE TO STOP THE SNAKE MEN..
RRMMMMMBBLL!!

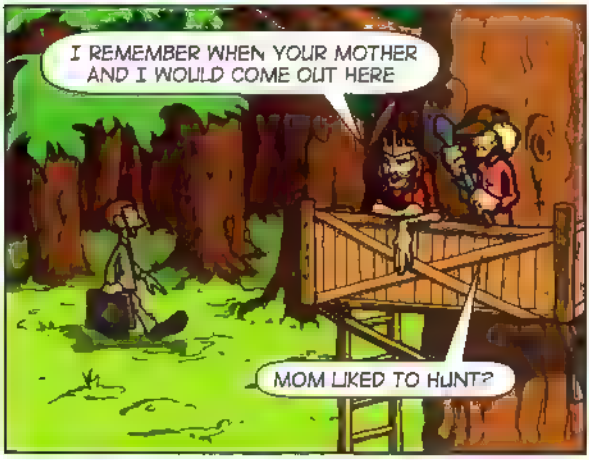
"...BUT NOW IT'S TOO LATE."
RRRR

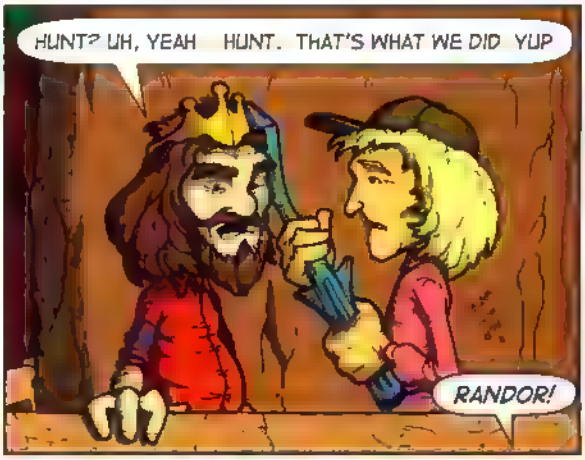
Tony Grate's

Eternian DaZe

WRITTEN BY TONY GRATE
PENCILS AND INKS. TONY GRATE
COLOR AND LETTERING DEVIN DUCHSCHERER


ADAM, I'VE BEEN HUNTING FOREST TROLLS FOR 30 YEARS, AND IT WAS IN THESE WOODS THAT I SHOT MY VERY FIRST ONE. BUT IT WAS FOGGY YESTERDAY AND I COULDN'T FIND THE BODY





CGE
3 $2.95
STADLES
TONG
ROBERTS
DUKESHIRE
MASTERS
OF THE UNIVERSE
RISE OF THE
SNAKE MEN

MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE™ RISE OF THE SNAKE MEN

Val Staples
workaholic
Matt Tyree
art director
Leanne Shaw
editor

MVCREATIONS™
www.mvcreations.com

Lost Time...

With only herself in mind, Evil-Lyn secretly worked with General Ratdor and Kobra Khan to steal Zodak's staff and free the Snake Men from the Void beneath Snake Mountain. At the same time, the Masters raced to Snake Mountain, hoping to stop this from happening. But they soon found themselves locked in battle with Skeletor and his forces. The Masters were defeated and fled. Before Skeletor could follow, the Snake Men appeared and Skeletor and his warriors were frozen in stone. Zodak, who came to kill the now freed King Hsss, was intercepted by He-Man. In an attempt to stop Zodak, the two engaged in a heated stand-off. But it was all in vain as King Hsss' forces soon spewed forth from Snake Mountain...

Val Staples — story
Andie Tong — art
Jeremy Roberts — colors
Ed Dukeshire — letters
Monica Lopez
Vicki Jaeger
Ian Richter
Geoff Walker — edits

CrossGen Publishing, LLC
President Chief Executive Officer & Publisher · Mark Alessi
Senior Vice President Chief Creative Officer · Gina M. Villa
Director Ancillary Publishing · Ian M. Feller
Senior Vice President Chief Financial Officer · Bret Sears
Controller · Brian Soltis
Senior Vice President General Counsel · Jennifer Hernandez
Senior Vice President Product Development · Tony Panaccio
Director of Marketing & Communications · Bill Rosemann
Vice President Sales · Chris Carr
Director of Sales Direct & Foreign Markets · James Breitbeil
Vice President Special Projects · Brandon Peterson
Vice President Production · Pam Davies
Production Supervisor Books · Janet Bechtle
Production Designers · Erin Flanagan & Randy Martin
Production Assistants · Ron Domingue & Marisol Quintana

MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE™ RISE OF THE SNAKE MEN Issue 3, December 2003. FIRST PRINTING.
MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE and associated trademarks and trade dress are owned by, and used under license from, Mattel, Inc. © 2003 Mattel, Inc. All Rights Reserved. http://www.mattel.com
Published by CrossGen Publishing, LLC. Office of publication: 4023 Tampa Road, Suite 2400, Oldsmar, Florida 34677. The CGE logo ™ is Trademark 2002-2003 CrossGen Intellectual Property, LLC, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. Produced by MVCreations, LLC, 1316 Jefferson Street, Lynchburg, VA 24504. The MVCreations logo ™ is Trademark 1998-2003 MVCreations, LLC. The stories, incidents and characters in this publication are fictional. Any similarities to persons living or dead or to names, characters or institutions are unintentional, and any such similarity is purely coincidental. With the exception of artwork used for review purposes, none of the contents of this publication may be reprinted or reproduced in any form without the prior express written consent of Mattel, Inc. and MVCreations, LLC. PRINTED IN USA.

THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF THEM, ALMOST ACTING AS A SINGLE ORGANISM.
HSSS' FOLLOWERS WERE MANY. THEY WOULD FOLLOW HIM TO THE ENDS OF ETERNIA.
YOU CAN'T DEFEAT AN ARMY LIKE THAT, ZODAK.
YOU NEED OUR HELP
I RESPECT YOUR DESIRE TO AVENGE YOUR BROTHER.
BUT YOU DON'T NEED TO PROVE THIS TO ME OR ANYONE ELSE BY SINGLE-HANDEDLY TAKING ON AN ENEMY OF THIS MAGNITUDE.
LET US HELP YOU.
I'LL MAKE SURE THAT KING HSSS IS YOURS TO DEAL WITH... I PROMISE.
WE MUST PREPARE.
OUR TIME IS SHORT, AND KING HSSS WARRIORS ARE VERY RESILIENT.

I ESTIMATE APPROXIMATELY A COUPLE THOUSAND WARRIORS.
THEY ARE HEADED DIRECTLY FOR THE LIGHT HEMISPHERE.
AT THEIR CURRENT SPEED THEY SHOULD REACH THE OUTSKIRTS OF ETERNOS IN JUST A FEW DAYS.
HOW CAN THEY POSSIBLY MOVE THAT FAST?
KING HSSS' MAGIC
HE HAS THE ABILITY TO INCREASE THEIR SPEED AND STAMINA TEN FOLD AS LONG AS THEY ACT IN UNISON.
AND THEY ARE HEADED TO CASTLE GRAYSKULL, NOT ETERNOS
DON'T COME ANY CLOSER, ZODAK!
DON'T WORRY, MAN-AT-ARMS.
EVERYTHING IS UNDER CONTROL.
UNDER CONTROL?!?
THAT MANIAC TRIED TO KILL US!
I APOLOGIZE FOR MY EARLIER ACTIONS.
I HAVE RETURNED WITH HE-MAN TO AID YOU IN DEFEATING THE SNAKE MEN.
HRRMPH!
WHY DO I HAVE A HARD TIME BELIEVING YOU??
WE CAN ARGUE ABOUT THIS LATER.
IF THOSE SNAKE MEN WILL REACH GRAYSKULL IN JUST A FEW DAYS, THEN WE WON'T HAVE MUCH TIME
WHILE I CAN RADIO FOR A TRANSPORT TO RUSH US BACK TO ETERNOS CITY, WE STILL NEED TO PREPARE OUR DEFENSES AND DEPLOY THEM TO THE CASTLE.
LET'S HOPE THE FATES ARE ON OUR SIDE...

RRMMMMBBULLL
RRRMMMBBULL
HHHIIISSSSSSS
RRRRMMMMMMMMMM
BBBULLL
HHISSSSSSS

GIVE UP NOW, MASTERSSS!!!
YOU MAY DIE, BUT AT LEAST YOUR DEATHSSS WILL BE QUICK AND PAINLESS!!!
I WILL ONLY GIVE YOU ONE CHANCE TO STAND DOWN!
IF YOU THINK YOU CAN TAKE GRAYSKULL BY FORCE, THEN YOU WILL DIE TRYING!!!
I WASSS HOPING YOU MIGHT SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
DEATH TO THE HUMANS!!!
BATTLE POSITIONS!!!
AIR BATTALION, COMMENCE FIRST WAVE STRIKE!!!
FIRST PLATOON, READY RIFLES AND FIRE AT WILL!!!

IS THAT THE BESSST YOU'VE GOT?!?
THOOM!
THWIP
OOF!!!
FHWUMM
HNNNPH!!!
YOU CANNOT SSSTAND AGAINST THE MIGHT OF THE SNAKE MEN!
KLLLAT
KLAKK
GLLLT
KLLLAT
SAVE IT FOR SOMEONE WHO CARES!
FWACK

STAND STILL..?
KRRIK
AARR--
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I HAD IN MIND!
STAND STILL AND MAKE THIS EASIER ON YOURSELF!
BLASTED SNAKES! I'LL MAKE SURE YO--
BOOM
WHAT TH--???
UNGH!!!
THWAM
TZAP!
GLUGT
THEY DON'T STOP COMING! IT SEEMS FOR EVERY ONE WE GET RID OF, THERE ARE PLENTY MORE TO TAKE THEIR PLACE!
THEN IT IS TIME I UP THE STAKES

LET'S SEE HOW THESE CREATURES FARE AGAINST THE ANCIENT WINDS OF ETERNIA
WHAHHRRRRRRRRRRR
I THINK IT'S TIME WE SHAKE THINGS UP A BIT, CAT!
BADOOM
ACK!
YOU HAVE TO BE KIDDING ME!
WHAM

THWAM
KABOOM
WHERE IS KING HSSS?!?
WHY DOESSS IT MATTER..
...WHEN DEATH IS WHAT YOU TRULY SEEK!
FOOM
WHERE IS HE?!?
LIKE I WOULD TELL YOU!
KRADOOM
KAF!
KING HSSS W.. WILL KILL YO--
KRADOOM
uhhh..
IT'S.. IT'S TOO LATE! GRAVSKULL'S POWER WILL BE OURS.

YESSS! THE POWER OF THE ANCIENTSSS IS BEFORE ME!
I CAN FEEL IT!
JUST AS I CAN SSSENSE YOU, PROTECTOR OF THE CASTLE!
THE MAGIC YOU USE TO DEFEND THIS FORTRESS WILL NOT HOLD AGAINST MY SSSTRENGTH FOR LONG!
SHHRAKK
SSSOON I WILL HAVE MY REVENGE UPON THE ELDERS! ALL THAT WAS ONCE THEIRSSS WILL BELONG TO ME!!!
SOMEONE AS GREAT AS YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE TO WASTE ANY EFFORT ON THE SORCERESS' DEFENSES
ALLOW ME..
THIS WILL MAKE YOUR JOB SO MUCH EASIER!
KRAKATHOOM
HAHA HAHA!!! INCREDIBLE! SPARING YOUR LIFE WAS WORTH IT AFTER ALL!
AND I'M SURE ONE DAY I WILL EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE

ACK!
KING HSSS POSSESSES AN ANCIENT MAGIC THAT RIVALS MY OWN. I DID NOT ANTICIPATE EVIL-LYN TO BE AT HIS SIDE!
I MUST HOLD THE JAWBRIDGE! THE MASTERS HAVE TO DEFEAT THE FORCES OUTSIDE THE CASTLE!
TODAY IS THE DAY THE ELDERS' FAILURE IS COMPLETE!
TODAY IS THE DAY THAT THE SNAKE MEN WILL RULE THIS PLANET ONCE MORE!!!!
BRADOOM
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!!

HRNNN!!
I... I CANNOT HOLD IT! I NEED THE HELP OF ANOTHER!
HUNH!!!
HE-MAN!!!
THE CASTLE DEFENSES ARE ABOUT TO FALL TO KING HSSS! GRAVSKULL NEEDS YOUR HELP!!!
SSSS

NO!!!
HGGGGG!!!
SQUIT!
ARRRGH!
ATTACK THE CASTLE! FOLLOW HSSS INTO VICTORY!!!
I HAVE TO GET THERE FIRST! I CAN'T LET THEM GET INTO GRAYSKULL!
FINALLY! AFTER SSSO LONG, A MISTAKE FROM THE PAST WILL FINALLY BE ERASED!
HSSS!!!

THERE IS ONLY ONE MISTAKE FROM THE PAST FOR WHICH YOU MUST ATONE
HA HA HA HA!
PLEASE DON'T TELL ME IT IS YOUR BROTHER THAT YOU WISH TO AVENGE!
YOU CAN NEVER TAKE BACK THE SATISFACTION I ENJOYED WHEN HE PERISHED!
DIE!!!
ALLOW ME.
UNH!
FWHACK
THADOOM!!!
YOU HAVE DONE WELL, EVIL-LYN.
NOW... SEE TO IT THAT NO ONE INTERUPTSSS ME.
I WILL CALL FOR YOU IF NEEDED...

HAHA HAHA!
A GUARDIAN!
SO, IT'S TRUE! THE POWER OF THE ELDERS NOW RESIDES IN GRAYSKULL'S CASTLE!
THIS IS WHERE IT ENDS, KING HSSS.
SCRACK
HOW RIGHT YOU ARE!!
SCRACK
BAMP
URGH!!!
SNAP
GHUNF!
KACK
GAH!
IEEEEE!!!
MAY YOUR LAST FEW MOMENTS BE SPENT IN UNIMAGINABLE PAIN, LITTLE ONE.
SO IS THE WAY FOR ALL WHO CHALLENGE KING HSSS..

GET UP, ZODAK! HSSS IS IN THE CASTLE!
I'M GOING TO NEED YOUR HELP TO--
HSSSS!!!
GIVE UP, HE-MAN! THE CASTLE IS OURSSS!!!
I WON'T LET YOU ENTER GRAYSKULL!!!
ZODAK! TRY TO RAISE THE JAWBRIDGE WHILE I
...ZODAK?!?

AHHHH... ELDERS... I CAN FEEL YOUR POWER... AND YOUR FEAR!
YOU NEVER THOUGHT WE'D RISE AGAIN! BUT THE SNAKE MEN CANNOT BE BEATEN!!!
I'M WILLING TO TEST THAT THEORY
YOU TROUBLESOME WORM!
I WILL MAKE SURE YOU NEVER BOTHER ME AGAIN!
WHOOSH
SHRAPP
LET US END THIS NOW!!!
SWIPE
BADA BADA BADA BADA BAM
ARRGH!
FAPOW
HAHAHA!
YOUR SKILL HAS INCREASED ALL OF THESE YEARS!
BUT YOU ARE A MERE ETERNIAN MORTAL! YOU WILL NEVER BE A TRUE COSMIC ENFORCER!
FEEL THE LIFE SEEP FROM YOUR BODY! FEEL THE POWER OF KING HSSS!
I WILL SEND YOU TO YOUR BROTHER, ZODAK! BUT NOT UNTIL I'VE HAD THE PLEASURE OF WATCHING YOU SUFFER FIRST!!!
HAHAHA HAHAHA!

SORCERESS!
ACK!
THE POISON FROM KING HSSS' BITE IS FLOWING THROUGH HER.
BUT THE POWER OF THE ELDERS CAN REVERSE ITS EFFECTS.
YOU KNEW THIS, YET YOU LEFT HER TO SUFFER WHILE YOU FOUGHT HSSS?!?
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN IMPOSSIBLE TO--
FORGET IT, ZODAK.
YOU'RE WASTING MY TIME...
CLAK
KLUNK
KLUNG
THEIR NUMBERS HAVE BEEN REDUCED, BUT THERE ARE STILL SO MANY OF THEM!
CLANK
THE BATTLE IS OVER!
LOOK UPON THE BODY OF YOUR FALLEN KING!
KING HSSS IS NO MORE!
IT'SSS... IT'S NOT POSSIBLE!
THAT SCALY FOOL HAS FALLEN! ALL OF MY EFFORTS HAVE BEEN WASTED!
HOW DARE THESE FAILURES THREATEN MY LIFE!
WHEN THEIR LIVES ARE WORTHLESS!

SKRRRAKATHOOM
AAHHHH!!
AIIIEEEEEE!!!
AIIIEEEEEE!!!
AAAGGGHH!!!
RRRRAARGH!!!
AAHHH!
AIIEEE!
BY THE ANCIENTS...!
EVIL-LYN?!?
BUT WHY WOULD SHE DO THIS?
RUMMBBLL
KRAKAKRAK
UNN!
WHAT... WHAT HAPPENED?
WHAT HAPPENED?!?
I WILL TELL YOU WHAT HAPPENED! UNFORGIVABLE TREASON!
AND THIS TIME, I WILL SHOW NO MERCY!
EDITOR'S NOTE: SEE MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE VOLUME 1, ISSUES 3 & 4

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT'S ALL OVER.
OR THAT WE HAVE EVIL-LYN TO THANK FOR IT.

ARE YOU GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT, MEKANECK?
I'M A BIT STIFF, BUT THAT'S ABOUT IT.
I'M GLAD TO KNOW THE EFFECTS OF SNAKE FACE'S POWER WORE OFF WHEN HE GOT A TASTE OF HIS OWN MEDICINE.

HA-HA
WE WON! CAN YOU BELIEVE IT? IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE!

CELEBRATE?

KA-THWACK
WHAT IS THERE TO CELEBRATE ABOUT?!?

WHAT'S HIS PROBLEM?
SOME PEOPLE WILL NEVER BE CONTENT WITH THE PATH THEIR LIFE HAS TAKEN.
IT SEEMS ZODAK BEARS A SCAR THAT HE WILL CARRY WITH HIM FOREVER.

AND HERE I WAS MISTAKENLY THINKING YOU ALL MIGHT NEED MY HELP.

HE-MAN! HOW IS--
EVERYTHING IS HOW IT WAS BEFORE, DON'T WORRY.

WHAT HAPPENED HERE? HOW DID YOU DEFEAT THEM ALL?
AND WHY ARE THEY ALL... DEAD?!?

IT WASN'T US. IT WAS EVIL-LYN.
SHE DID ALL OF THIS... BY HERSELF. I NEVER KNEW SHE WAS SO POWERFUL.

NEITHER DID I.

WHAT HAPPENED TO ZODAK?
IN A NUTSHELL, HE THREW HSSS' BODY INTO THE ABYSS AND THEN TOOK OFF.
HE STILL SEEMED VERY ANGRY.
ZODAK WILL NEED TIME BEFORE HE CAN CHANGE. HE'S HAD A GREAT DEAL OF ANGER PENT UP INSIDE FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS.
THERE'S NO WAY ANY OF US COULD UNDERSTAND WHAT THAT DOES TO A PERSON.
THEY SAY TIME HEALS ALL WOUNDS. I HOPE ONE DAY ZODAK FINDS PEACE WITH HIS PAST.
AND NOW THAT THIS ORDEAL IS OVER, I HOPE WE CAN ALL ENJOY SOME PEACE FOR A WHILE AS WELL.

SSSSSSSSSSSSSS!